

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

MEDICAL CENTER

PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS

*Professor J. Lederberg, Executive*

March 6, 1962

Dear Dr. Masland:

It just struck me that there is a large amount of activity and interest these days in suppressing cholesterol synthesis in relation to cv disease, involving both dietary measures, and specific drugs such as triparanol. But I have not noticed any comment whatsoever that the largest depot of cholesterol is in brain lipid, and that we should be especially sensitive to the possibility of subtle, long term effects on cerebral function -- particularly in the application of such measures to children.

Is this anything that your Institute is worried about, or has any particular information on? At the least, I should think some explicit measure of biochemical effect on neurolipid synthesis ought to be part of the regime for certification of such drugs.

If there has been any investigation of the effect of triparanol on CNS metabolism that has come to your attention, I would be grateful to hear of it.

Yours sincerely,

